



Commission for Arts and Culture

FACT SHEET

Public Artwork at Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library *TEXT/TILE*

About the Artwork

Artist Janelle Iglesias is creating a permanent site-specific public artwork for the new Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library. Titled *TEXT/TILE*, the artwork will be an immersive terra-cotta tile installation in the rear courtyard of the library. Each tile will contain a letterform and the overall installation acts as a wordfind, which will spell out words in the languages of peoples who have inhabited the land where the library is sited: English, Spanish, and Kumeyaay. The words themselves will reference the native plantings that are planted in the courtyard in each of the three languages. Visitors to the library are invited to sit in contemplation in the courtyard until the words reveal themselves or can actively seek them out as a form of engagement, utilizing a key made by the artist. The medium of terracotta tiles makes reference to early libraries which were composed of clay tablets bearing cuneiform writing. The use of tiles makes a connection between the the ancient and modern-day library and the tile installation acts as a literal extension of the modern-day library housing the books inside. The artwork blurs the distinction between inside and outside, which is a design element of the library overall, and aligns with the concept of the Library's IDEA Lab which focuses on archeology and paleontology.

About the Artist

Janelle Iglesias is a Queens, New York born artist living and working in San Diego, CA. She received her BA in Cultural Anthropology from Emory University in 2002 and her MFA in Sculpture from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2006. Janelle's work can be described as site-sensitive, as it responds to architecture, place, history and context. As an object-centric artist, she is invested in thingness; how objects and materials carry meaning and how they facilitate outcomes depending on their exposure to circumstances. She creates unlikely sculptural situations, instigating new connections between objects from contradictory contexts. Janelle has exhibited her work both as a solo artist and in collaboration with her sister Lisa Iglesias as Las Hermanas Iglesias at various institutions both nationally and internationally.

About Arts and Culture

The City advances and drives an equitable and inclusive creative economy and cultural ecosystem by investing in the work of artists and creatives, and the institutions and systems that amplify creative work and experiences; cultivating local participation and access; and advancing San Diego as a global city. Committed to equitable economic development, City arts and culture staff, facilitate the City's investments in organizations, artists, and neighborhoods. Programs, partnerships, and initiatives range from funding and public art to cross-sector and creative industries.